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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 29th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KHAN (Pakistan)

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(c) SUSTAINABLE USE AND CONSERVATION OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES OF THE HIGH SEAS: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS (continued)

(e) GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (continued)

The meeting was called to order at 10.30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.2, L.11, L.14, L.16, L.21, L.26 and L.35)

Draft resolution on modalities of reporting in the economic, social and related fields (A/C.2/49/L.14)

1. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.14, said that the Economic and Social Council had considered the issue and had agreed that it should be taken up by the General Assembly.

Draft resolution on preventive action and intensification of the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa (A/C.2/49/L.26)

2. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.26 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Draft resolution on the World Conference on Public Administration and Development (A/C.2/49/L.35)

3. Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.35, said that Gabon should have been included among the original list of sponsors, and that Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Malawi and Mongolia had become sponsors.

4. It was generally realized that the only viable socio-economic system was one that respected the freedom of the individual and focused on promoting social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom. It was therefore necessary to consider what the relationship between the public and private sectors should be in the promotion of development. Even in a market economy, the public sector and especially the State had a role to play in correcting the shortcomings of the market and promoting favourable conditions for the development of the production sector.

5. The Ministers of the Civil Service of 33 African countries had met at Tangier in June 1994 to consider the question of the relationship between the public and private sector. They concluded that a world conference was needed in order to develop a multidimensional strategy for achieving an effective, responsible and competent public sector.

6. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to take action on draft resolutions A/C.2/49/L.2, L.11 and L.16.

Draft resolution on the commemoration of the millenium of the Kyrgyz national epic, Manas (A/C.2/49/L.2)

7. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of the informal consultations, said that no changes had been requested to the draft resolution which the Economic and Social Council had recommended to the Assembly for adoption.

8. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.2 was adopted.

Draft resolution on the question of declaring 1998 International Year of the Ocean (A/C.2/49/L.11)

9. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of the informal consultations, said that an editorial change was required in the Arabic version.

10. Mr. CATARINO (Portugal) underlined that it was commonly understood that the term "ocean" included the seas of the planet also.

11. Mr. JOMAA (Tunisia) said that his delegation agreed with the understanding that the term "ocean" included the seas, particularly the Mediterranean Sea. That was also the understanding of the term as used in the Convention on the Law of the Sea and in Agenda 21.

12. The CHAIRMAN announced that Bulgaria, Cameroon, Croatia, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Madagascar and Norway had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

13. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.11 was adopted.

Draft resolution on the Report of the Committee for Development Planning: general review of the list of least-developed countries (A/C.2/49/L.16)

14. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the statement on programme budget implications contained in document A/C.2/49/L.21.

15. Mr. RAICHEV (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of the informal consultations, said that the third preambular paragraph had been replaced with the following text: "Noting with concern the increase in the number of least developed countries, particularly in Africa, and underlining the importance of the creation of a conducive international economic environment for the growth and development of the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries,". He urged the adoption of the draft resolution, as amended.

16. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.16, as orally amended, was adopted.

17. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, expressed the hope that the international community would undertake concrete action to help the developing countries with a view to revitalizing their economic growth and development and to mobilize the necessary financial and technical assistance for developing countries, especially the least developed countries.

AGENDA ITEM 88: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.31, L.32, L.34, L.36 and L.38)

Draft resolution on strengthening international organizations in the area of multilateral trade (A/C.2/49/L.31)

Draft resolution on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s: High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s (A/C.2/49/L.32)

Draft resolution on specific measures in favour of island developing countries (A/C.2/49/L.36)

18. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria) introduced the draft resolutions on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and said that draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.31 was purely procedural and had no financial implications while draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.36 was purely procedural and had no financial implications while draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.36 reflected the decisions and recommendations of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Draft resolution on international trade and development (A/C.2/49/L.34)

19. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.34 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

20. Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Russian Federation) said that his delegation supported many of the ideas contained in the draft resolution and that during preliminary consultations his delegation and others from the Commonwealth of Independent States had proposed that they should work together with the Group of 77 on the draft resolution so that it would take into account also the specific interests of countries with economies in transition. While that had not proved possible, his delegation continued to believe that the draft resolution could, under certain conditions, be a fairly good basis for beginning a constructive negotiating process.

21. Instead of submitting a separate draft resolution, the delegations of the Commonwealth of Independent States would submit amendments to draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.34, in order to try to ensure access of exports from countries in

transition to the world market; to further the development of the trade and economic relations of those countries with developing countries; and to promote the adaptation of the countries in transition to the multilateral trade system. His delegation therefore hoped to carry out joint consultations with all interested delegations, and in particular with the sponsors of the draft resolution.

22. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America) said that his delegation endorsed the draft resolution as a relatively useful text and looked forward to informal consultations; it had a special interest in devising a balanced comprehensive text that would address the concerns of all States. His delegation was gratified that the Russian delegation was trying to incorporate its concerns into the draft resolution instead of submitting an alternative text. The United States of America appreciated the efforts of economies in transition to integrate into the world economy on the basis of free and open trade.

23. Mr. McDONALD (Observer for the European Community) said that the European Community attached great importance to the draft resolution and it hoped that some of the Russian Federation's concerns could be properly accommodated in the final text.

Draft resolution on the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency (A/C.2/49/L.38)

24. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.38, said that the Symposium, which had taken place in Columbus, Ohio in October 1994, had been attended by over 137 members of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), as well as some 80 Ministers of Trade, 150 mayors and several hundred business executives.

25. His delegation shared the view of the Ministers of Trade that in the future a new cooperation between developed and developing countries would rely increasingly on technical and technological assistance, with private sector participation, to promote development. It applauded the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on Trade Efficiency and felt that the promotion of electronic commerce should be based on the principle of equality of access to systems compatible with international standards and that immediate action to enhance participation in trade was possible in such areas as customs, transport, banking and insurance.

26. His delegation had developed the draft resolution in consultation with UNCTAD with a view to affirming the outcome of the Symposium, especially the Ministerial Declaration and promoting the concept of electronic commerce. It hoped that other delegations would become sponsors of the draft resolution.

27. Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco) said that his delegation wished to join the sponsors of the draft resolution.

(c) COMMODITIES (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.29)

Draft resolution on commodities (A/C.2/49/L.29)

28. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.29 and urged its adoption by consensus.

(d) CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.33)

Draft resolution on cultural development (A/C.2/49/L.33)

29. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.33 and expressed the hope that it, too, could be adopted by consensus.

(f) INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.39)

Draft resolution on industrial development cooperation (A/C.2/49/L.39)

30. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.39 which had been formulated in response to the resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its fifth session.

(g) UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II) (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.27)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (A/C.2/49/L.27)

31. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, China and Turkey, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.27 which was purely procedural.

(h) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.28)

Draft resolution on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries: International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (A/C.2/49/L.28)

32. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.28 and urged that it be adopted by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM 89: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.17 and L.18)

33. Ms. WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT (United States of America) said that Brazil, Egypt and Madagascar had become sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.20 submitted

under agenda item 89 and that Singapore had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.24 submitted under the same item.

Draft resolution on dissemination of the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (A/C.2/49/L.17)

34. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of the informal consultations, said that a consensus had been achieved. In the third line of paragraph 2, the words "to continue to ensure" should be inserted after the words "system and". He recommended the adoption of the draft resolution.

35. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.17, as orally amended, was adopted.

36. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, expressed the hope that the Rio Declaration would be widely disseminated by the Member States and by all organizations of the United Nations system and that the principles contained therein, especially the principle relating to assistance to developing countries in the provision of new and additional financial resources and the transfer of technology, would be implemented.

37. Mr. MOJOUKHOV (Belarus), said that his delegation attached particular importance to principles 6, 12 and 27 of the Rio Declaration and wished to join the sponsors of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution on International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (A/C.2/49/L.18)

38. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of the informal consultations, said that in the first preambular paragraph of the text, the words "is responsible for" should be deleted, while the words "filtering" and "preventing" should be replaced by the words "filters" and "prevents", respectively. In the third line of the second preambular paragraph, the word "its" should be replaced by the word "the" and the words "of its multilateral fund" should be added at the end of the line. The phrase "to be observed beginning in 1995" should be added to the end of paragraph 1. In paragraph 3, the words "calls upon" should be replaced by the word "invites", while paragraph 5 should be deleted. He urged the Committee to adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

39. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.18, as orally amended, was adopted.

40. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that while the Group of 77 and China welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution, they regretted that informal consultations on another draft resolution dealing with the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought had been fraught with controversy and wondered whether that state of affairs did not reflect the fact that some delegations were trying to relegate the question of drought and desertification to a lower category.

(b) PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.9)

Draft resolution on protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (A/C.2/49/L.9)

41. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee), speaking on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.9 said that provision had been made under section 25 of the proposed programme budget for 1994-1995 not only for meetings programmed at the time of budget preparation, but also for meetings authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences were consistent with the pattern of meetings of past years. Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/49/L.9, no additional appropriation would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

42. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of the informal consultations, said that at the beginning of the third preambular paragraph, the words "Welcoming the" should be deleted and be replaced by the phrase "Reaffirming its deep appreciation for and acceptance of the generous". He urged the adoption of the draft resolution, by consensus.

43. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.9, as orally amended, was adopted.

44. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, noted the draft resolution which had just been adopted was a procedural one meant to avoid any controversial discussions of substantive issues that were still in abeyance. The Group of 77 and China reserved the right, at the eleventh session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, to raise any substantive issues on which agreement had not been reached at the tenth session.

(c) SUSTAINABLE USE AND CONSERVATION OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES OF THE HIGH SEAS: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.5)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (A/C.2/49/L.5)

45. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee) said that provision had been made under section 25 of the proposed programme budget for 1994-1995 for meetings programmed at the time of budget preparation as well as those that would be authorized subsequently provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences were consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years, Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/49/L.5, no additional appropriation would be required under section 25 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

46. Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman, recommended that draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.5 should be adopted by consensus.

47. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.5 was adopted.

(e) GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (continued) (A/C.2/49/L.37)

Draft resolution on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/C.2/49/L.37)

48. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.37 and said that Australia, Japan and New Zealand had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

49. Mr. RUNGE (Germany), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that in principle, members of the Union were prepared to join the sponsors of the draft resolution, on the understanding that the changes discussed during the informal consultations would be introduced.

The meeting rose at 12.15 p.m.